

In the Specification:

Please substitute the following paragraphs for the corresponding paragraphs beginning at the indicated location in the specification as originally filed.

Page 18, line 14+:

The merge judging means 313 monitors the merging work to see whether or not the first related fault terminal information merging means 312 completes the merging work for all the times. The candidate sorting means 314 is operative to sort the candidates of the stuck- up fault with the number of related fault terminals, which is determined by the first related fault terminal information merging means 312, as the weight. The candidate sorting means 314 forms a list of the stuck- up fault. The candidate outputting means 315 delivers the pieces of ~~stuck-up~~ stuck-at fault candidate information representative of the list and the related fault terminals to the stuck- up fault candidate memory 51 and the output unit 6.

Page 30, line 22+:

As described hereinbefore, the difference between the ~~stuck-up~~ stuck-up fault candidate and the open-fault candidate is whether the logic state is to be taken into account or not. In other words, the pieces of related fault terminal information representative of the open- fault candidate A-open is equivalent to the pieces of related fault terminal information representative of the stuck-up fault candidates A-sa0 and A-sa1 ORed with each other. In case where only the ~~stuck-up~~ stuck-at fault candidate A-sa0 is found in the list of ~~stuck-up~~ stuck-at candidates, the ~~stuck-up~~ stuck-at fault candidate A-sa0 is substantially identical with the open- fault candidate A- open, and the same pieces of related fault terminal information are shared between the ~~stuck-up~~ stuck-at fault

candidate A-sa0 and the open- fault candidate A- open. In this situation, if both of the ~~stuck-up~~ stuck-at fault candidate A-sa0 and the open- fault candidate A- open are written into the list of mixed fault candidates, the piece of ~~stuck-up~~ stuck-at fault candidate information is doubled with the piece of open- fault candidate information. In order to reduce the pieces of mixed fault candidate information, the double candidate eliminating means 342 eliminates the pieces of open- fault candidate information from the list of mixed fault candidates.

Page 37, line 6+:

Finally, the candidate outputting means 315 delivers the pieces of ~~stuck-up~~ stuck-at fault candidate information representative of the list and the related fault terminals to the output unit 6 and the ~~stuck-up~~ stuck-at fault candidate memory 51 at step B5.

Page 43, line 2+:

The job at step A5 is hereinbelow described in detail on the basis of the fault candidates described with reference to figures 16 to 18. First, the candidate memory searching means 341 reads out the pieces of ~~stuck-up~~ stuck-at fault candidate information from the ~~stuck-up~~ stuck-at fault candidate memory 51, the pieces of open- fault candidate information from the open- fault candidate memory 52 and the pieces of bridge- fault candidate information from the bridge- fault candidate memory 53 at step E1, and draws up the list of mixed fault candidates. The list of mixed fault candidates contains B-sa0 relating to the fault terminals F1, F2, F3, F4, F5 and F6, A-sa0 relating to the fault terminals F1, F2, F3 and F4, C-sa1 relating to the fault terminals F1, F2 and F5, A-sa1 relating to the fault terminals F5 and F6, D-sa0

relating to the fault terminals F5 and F6, A-open relating to the fault terminals F1, F2, F3, F4, F5 and F6, B-open relating to the fault terminals F1, F2, F3, F4, F5 and F6, C-open relating to the fault terminals F1, F2 and F5, D-open relating to the fault terminals F5 and F6 and AD-bf relating to the fault terminals F1, F2, F3, F4, F5 and F6.